

1963

September 5, 1963

The Athens-Clark County Library Board met at the Athens Country Club on Tuesday, September 5, 1963 at 1 p.m. Present were: Troutman Wilson, W.W. Wier, Mrs. F.H. Mendenhall, Mrs. Robert Stephens, Mrs. Frank Dudley, Mrs. J.B. Neighbors, Marvin Perry and Sarah Maret. Special guests were, Congressman Robert Stephens, Miss Lucile Nix and Mrs. June Cawthorn.

Following the luncheon, the board meeting was called to order by Chairman Wilson. By common consent the reading of the minutes was dispensed with.

The Chairman gave a cordial welcome to the guests. Congressman Stephens was invited to speak. He gave a report on legislation pending in Congress and cited those measures which he felt would be passed and those which he felt would be defeated during this session of Congress. The Board expressed its appreciation to Congressman Stephens for his support of the pending library legislation.

The Chairman reported that some adjustments had been made in salaries during 1963.

The Chairman then introduced Miss Lucile Nix of the State Department of Education and asked her to report on library activities in the state. Miss Nix cited the growth of the Athens Regional Library from its beginning under the sponsorship of the Works Progress Administration when it was the first regional library in the state to its present status. She then pointed out the needs for the future. She said that the most pressing need at this time is for more adequate space. A need for at least three times as much space as is now available was cited. A seating capacity for at least one hundred fifty persons is needed. Room should be provided for at least 200,000 books. Plans, she pointed out, should be made by the Board to begin to think in terms of a new building. She said that an adequate library is one factor in attracting new industry to a community. She noted that several Georgia communities have built new buildings within the past several years.

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Miss Maret reported that the Georgia Library Association is holding its meeting at Jekyll Island, October 17-19 and asked if any of the board members could attend. A meeting of the Trustees Section would be held and we would like for some of our members to be present.

Members were asked to join the Citizens Library Committee. Membership fee is \$1.00 per year. Mrs. Neighbors, Mrs. Mendenhall and Miss Maret joined at this time.

There was no other business. The meeting was adjourned.

Dorothy E. Thwait
Secretary

December 12, 1963

The Athens-Clarke County Library Board met at the Regional Library on Thursday afternoon, December 12 at 5 p.m. The following members were present: Troutman Wilson, Thomas H. Milner, Jr., Mrs. F.H. Mendenhall, Miss Natalie Bocock, Mrs. Frank Dudley, W.W. Wier, Richard Bloodworth, Mrs. Carlton James, Mrs. J.B. Neighbors and Sarah Maret.

Meeting was called to order by Chairman Wilson.

Minutes of the last meeting were read and approved.

A copy of the 1964 budget was distributed and discussed. The

Director reported that the library is now receiving \$5,000 per year from funds allotted by the Library Services Act. This amount comes to the library by way of the State Department of Education. She reported that a bill, the Library Services and Construction Act, was now before Congress. It has already passed the Senate and should reach the House soon. The bill, if passed, would allow some funds for construction. She pointed out that this could help the Regional Library secure a new building. Discussion of a new building was held. The Chairman reported that the County now has many needs, such as bridge construction, road construction, etc., facing it and that a bond election is imminent. It is the feeling of the Commissioners, he reported, that the inclusion of a new library building in the bond election would have popular appeal and would help it to pass. The place of the library in Urban Renewal was discussed. It was pointed out that the present location of the building is excellent as a segment of Athens' population is reached at the present site who might not otherwise be served if the building were at a more distant location from down-town.

The Chairman said that in making long range plans for a new building, the Dunbar Branch Library should be included in with the main library. He noted the expensive operation of this library in comparison with its use by the negro citizens.

It was moved by Mr. Milner that the budget be adopted as presented. Motion seconded by Mr. Wier. Motion carried.

Mr. Wier moved that a Christmas supplement be given to the members of the staff and that the Chairman and the Director determine the amount to be given to each staff member. Miss Bocock seconded the motion. Motion carried. (It was noted that the supplement would range from \$5.00 to \$25.00 per person.)

The policy of the Chairman's countersigning the library checks was discussed. It was pointed out that this seemed to be unnecessary and should be discontinued. It was moved that any officer of the Board, (Chairman, Vice-Chairman or Treasurer) should be empowered to sign checks and that only one signature should be necessary. Motion seconded and passed.

It was pointed out that terms of three members of the Board are due

to expire on January 7, 1964. These members are, Richard Bloodworth, Troutman Wilson and Thomas H. Milner, Jr. These members were recommended for re-appointment. A letter is to be written to the Mayor and City Council asking that they be re-appointed for a term of five years. The Chairman appointed a committee of Mrs. Neighbors, chairman, Mrs. James and Mr. Bloodworth to recommend additional persons to be added to the Board. The committee should bring the names to the Board for approval before submitting them to the appointing authorities.

Chairman of the Nominating Committee, W.W. Wier gave the following report:

Chairman Mrs. F.H. Mendenhall
Vice Chairman Troutman Wilson
Treasurer Thomas H. Milner, Jr.

Mr. Bloodworth moved that the report be accepted. Motion seconded by Mrs. Neighbors. Motion carried. (Serving on the committee with Mr. Weir were Mr. Perry and

After the election of officers, Mrs. Mendenhall, the new chairman, took office. She called for a working board with each member having a definite responsibility. She appointed the following committees:

Grounds - Mrs. Neighbors, Chairman, Mrs. Dudley, Vice Chairman and Mrs. James

Building - Mr. Weir, Chairman, Mrs. Gunn, Vice Chairman and Mr. Logan (from the Clarke Co. Commissioners)

Budget - Mr. Milner, Chairman, Mrs. Stephens, Vice Chairman and Miss Maret

Personnel - Mr. Bloodworth, Chairman and Miss Bocock

Constitution Revision - Mr. Perry, Chairman and Judge Oldham

Mr. Bloodworth noted the difficulty he had had within the last few weeks in reaching the library by telephone due to the traffic over the one line leading into the building. He moved that an additional line be installed. Motion seconded by Mr. Wilson. Motion carried.

There was no other business. Meeting was adjourned.

Paul E. Mant
Secretary